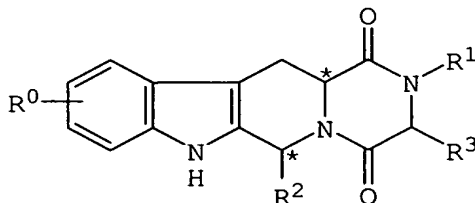
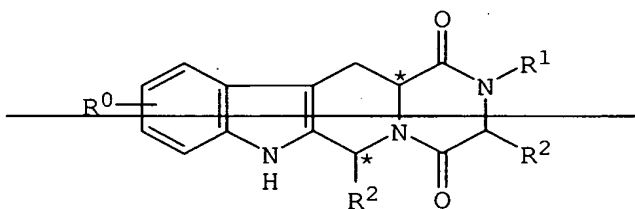




IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A method of potentiating an effect of endothelium-derived relaxing factor, a nitrovasodilator, atrial natriuretic factor, brain natriuretic peptide, a C-type natriuretic peptide, or an endothelium-dependent relaxing agent in a human or nonhuman animal body, which comprises administering to said body a therapeutically effective amount of a compound having a formula



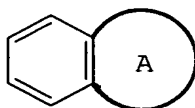
or salts or solvates thereof, in which:

$R^0$  represents hydrogen, halogen, or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl;

$R^1$  represents hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkynyl, halo $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl- $C_{1-3}$ alkyl, aryl $C_{1-3}$ alkyl, wherein aryl is phenyl or phenyl substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, methylenedioxy, and mixtures thereof,

or heteroarylC<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl, wherein heteroaryl is thienyl, furyl or pyridyl, each optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, and mixtures thereof;

R<sup>2</sup> represents an optionally substituted monocyclic aromatic ring, selected from benzene, thiophene, furan, and pyridine, or an optionally substituted bicyclic ring;



attached to the rest of the molecule via one of the benzene ring carbon atoms and wherein the fused ring A is a 5- or 6-membered ring which may be saturated or partially or fully unsaturated and comprises carbon atoms and optionally one or two heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulfur, and nitrogen; and

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, or R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>3</sup> together represent a 3- or 4-membered alkyl or alkenyl chain component of a 5- or 6-membered ring.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the endothelium-dependent relaxing agent is bradykinin, acetylcholine, or 5-HT.

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